

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1929 without my signature as the goals it is trying to achieve - timely payment to Area Agencies on Aging and reductions in lost checks - have been largely accomplished and additional improvements can be achieved administratively.

Today, Area Agencies on Aging are paid by the state in a timely manner consistent with the requirements of the prompt payment statute. Additionally, the number of lost payments has been reduced significantly with only five to ten warrants out of 2,400, or less than half a percent of all payments being returned to the state annually.

For these reasons, I am returning AB 1929 without my signature and directing the Department to Aging to explore and implement strategies to accelerate payments to the agencies.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger